

## RUSSIA AND TIBET.

The South China Weekly Post has information that the Russian command-in-chief in Turkestan is preparing to advance toward India if the British persist in their advance through Tibet, but it doubts the accuracy of the news. It thinks that Russia has enough on her hands at the present time to prevent her coming to war with Great Britain; for there is not the slightest doubt that were Russia to do as she is reported to have threatened, such action would promptly be construed by Britain as an "unfriendly act," and would mean the whole of the Near East being plunged into war. This move of the British through the sacred country is because the Indian Empire insists that Tibet shall keep to her treaties and promises. The British mission is a peaceful mission. It has no desire to annex country, or to depose the Dalai-Lama. It is true that it is an armed force of considerable strength, but that is necessitated by the fact that it is a wild country and that its inhabitants are more than likely to be hostile. To have sent a small force on such an expedition would have been sheer madness. The Viceroy of India is too shrewd a man to make mistakes of this kind. He knows the value of a strong hand and the wonderful aid it is to diplomacy. He knows that cunning must be met with cunning. He knows that the methods of the West are useless when dealing with the peoples of Asia. And so, for the first time for many years, Russian intrigue and Asiatic cunning are met on their own ground by a strong man who over-rides the scruples of modern civilization and uses their own weapons.

This advance into Tibet means an extraordinary thing for the prestige of Great Britain and the Empire of India. It strikes Russia in one of her vital spots. It will make her the laughing stock of the bazaars and the camp fires. In 1900 the Grand Lama deliberately transferred his allegiance to the Czar, who at once became "Lord and Guardian of the Gifts of Faith," and, practically, head of the Buddhist religion. Russia, however, blundered in this direction. She used her great influence to cause Tibet to break her treaties. She used cunning and lies. Then came along the cold wisdom and statesmanship of Lord Curzon, the Viceroy. He met fraud with force, and with one dexterous blow—this present advance—made Tibet realize that this great Power, Russia, was unable to assist her. It is so far-reaching a move that it may end in the Grand Lama transferring his allegiance from the Czar to the Emperor of India, and thus make Edward VII. the practical head of nearly the whole of the Buddhist religion. In a brilliant article in the "Contemporary Review," Mr. Alexander Ular says:—"The Lhasa authorities conferred the supreme Buddhist honor on the Czar on the implicit condition that Russia would, with more success than China, defend the territorial integrity and administrative independence of Tibet. When they have learned—to their heavy cost—that these things cannot possibly be guaranteed at the present time by Russia, they will probably adopt toward their new Lord of Faith the same line of conduct that has turned out to the extreme disadvantage of their former secular protector, the Manchu Emperor of China." In this pregnant opinion of Mr. Ular's there is great truth. The Tibetan people have always been a weak people. They have always preferred to lean upon somebody rather than trust to themselves, to live in seclusion and peace, to have one great spiritual head who would protect them in case of need. They forsook the Emperor of China because he failed them. Now in turn they may forsake the Czar because he has failed them.

Mr. Ular argues that Russia's greatest blunder—a blunder by which she may lose for ever the allegiance of the Grand Lama—was in not officially announcing her influence at Lhasa and making Tibet a kind of Afghanistan. She gained her position by secret devices and intrigue; and having gained them, kept them secret. When she was questioned by Britain as to these rights, she professed that she had no special interests there. She lacked the courage to publicly announce her position, with the result that Lord Curzon saw his opportunity, and with a statesmanlike prescience for which he cannot be given too much credit, sent his mission into the country of Tibet to enforce his demands. Russian craft and diplomacy in this case overreached itself. It put the Viceroy of India in the position of being able to say, "You have told me so often that you have no special interests in Tibet, therefore any action of ours in connection with her internal affairs does not concern you." The Indian Government, basing their action on Russia's official statements, will be able to deal with Tibet as they

like. They have it in their hands to practically make the country a dependency of India; but, to do this, every care is necessary. To again quote Mr. Ular:—"If the Dalai Lama is treated as an enemy of India, all these hopes will vanish. India may show him her power, but not at his own expense. The simple fact of invading, on a peaceful mission for treaty revision, the boundaries guaranteed, or supposed to be guaranteed, by the White Czar, will suffice. But India must carefully abstain from committing warlike acts, from annexing or occupying territory, or from enforcing clauses which cannot be accepted unless under threat of brute force. The Tibetan clergy live on one essential privilege which is more precious to them—and, unfortunately, more prejudicial to India—than even the political quasi-independence or integrity of the country; and this is a kind of monopoly of commerce conceded to them by the Chinese Emperor K'ang-hsi. This they cannot dispense with. And it ought to be the first duty of the Indian Commissioners to search carefully into the ancient treaty clauses and to abandon everything that may cause even the slightest prejudice to the clergy. Such a concession would be paid for a thousandfold by winning over the Lhasa Court to India; and India, after the failure of China and Russia, is the natural protector of that great religious organization, which, twenty-five centuries ago, spread over the East from the Ganges Valley." This advice of Mr. Ular's is good advice, and it is to be hoped that Lord Curzon's plans are laid on similar lines. He has the great chance of a life before him. Already he has accomplished a master stroke of Asiatic policy. He has forced Russia to avow tacitly her impotence to maintain her present standard of power. He has made his country's prestige higher in Asia than it has ever been. He has forced Russia into so humiliating a position that her prestige has tottered. The only way to regain it would be to fight. And that Russia will not do. She requires all her strength in the wilds of Manchuria and Korea. She has no wish for further trouble.

## CHEAPER REFINING.

Finance and Trade gives some information, of peculiar interest here, about the new and cheap special process of refining sugar. It quotes young Mr. Spreckels of the Federal Sugar Co., as saying that, by May 1, the company's plant at Yonkers will be turning out refined sugar at the rate of 4000 barrels per day.

This is the outcome of the experimental plant which was built over a year ago to refine sugar by a new process. The claim was made then that the cost of refining under the new process would be about one-third less than that of other companies and the company still believes that this claim will be materialized.

Interests in the company have a plan under consideration to establish a chain of plants throughout the country. It is the aim of the company to be in a position to bid for business in all parts of the country at the same time maintaining harmonious relations with other companies.

There is much to commend the proposal of the Government to stop the free distribution of nursery stock. In the first place the taxpayers cannot afford to carry on a gift enterprise and in the second place the class of nursery stock available to the public would be of greater variety in private than official hands. At least, during the past few years, the Government nursery has been unable to supply a great many desirable trees, fruit and ornamental, which surely would have been found in private stock. Private nurseries, importing tropical trees and keeping all local varieties, propagating roses and other flowers and keeping up to date would be a boon to Honolulu.

Russia does not regard Korea as a belligerent. Its attitude towards that country is the same as was Uncle Eph'am's towards a fat turkey owned by some po' white trash on the next street.

If Davis and his friends take comfort in a decision which suspends his remaining practice for three months, we don't know that the friends of plundered John K. Sumner need object.

The first sign of battle in this war is the assisted exodus of war correspondents from the places where they might see something.

It is to be hoped that Promoter Edmunds will not come up town and seize the hitching posts so as to get mooring fees out of them.

The Treasury is hardly to be blamed for refusing its own warrants. Everybody else would if they could get cash instead.

The Territorial Supreme Court may not know it, but that tribunal is once more out of favor with valette journalism.

The Hawaiian small farm doesn't need irrigation, judging from the rain reports.

## SHOULD WORK THE ORIENT

## A Wise Suggestion For the Promotion Committee.

"It seems to me that the Hawaii Promotion Committee could very profitably change the base of its tourist campaign now," said a wealthy Eastern tourist at the Alexander Young Hotel yesterday.

"The people on the mainland are saving their money now for the World's Fair to be held at St. Louis very soon, and I don't believe that many of them can be induced to come here while the exposition is in progress. It may be that the wealthy will keep on coming, but it is the middle classes that any country must depend upon for tourists, for from that class come the bulk of people who travel for pleasure.

"What I want to suggest is this. While the American campaign should not be entirely abandoned, yet the bulk of travel this year will be from the Orient, the Colonies and the Philippines and what the Promotion Committee should try to do is to induce these travelers to stop over here en route. A few thousands of dollars in advertising in Australia, and in the Orient would pay a hundred fold better than the same amount expended in the States. There is not going to be a large amount of travel to the Orient until after the close of the fair at St. Louis, but there is a good opportunity to catch these people for a stay-over in Hawaii either going or coming. The best plan would be, I should think, to have them stop over en route to St. Louis when they have not already been worn out in sight seeing.

"The travel from the East is beginning now, and if it is to do any good your advertising matter should go into China, Japan and Australia and the Philippines on the first steamer. I haven't a doubt but what the thousands of people who are going to St. Louis from those countries would stop over in Hawaii if the matter was properly presented and the steamship companies could be induced to insure accommodations for lay-over passengers on future steamers. At any rate I think the scheme is worth a trial and I believe it would bring better returns than more expensive advertising on the mainland at this time."

## PREPARED FOR GREAT CROWDS

ST. LOUIS, Mar. 2.—Ample hotel accommodations have been provided for the World's Fair visitors at St. Louis, both within and outside of the Exposition grounds.

The Exposition management has organized a free information service. A pamphlet has been issued for gratuitous circulation explaining many of the conveniences that have been provided. A list of all the hotels, with rates, is contained in this pamphlet. The entire city has been canvassed, and many thousands of private householders have arranged to receive visitors. These houses are in every section of the city, and the rates at which the guests will be received is a matter of record on the books of the bureau.

The Inside Inn, a hotel on the Exposition grounds, has a capacity for 6,000 guests. The Exposition management has control of the rates, which have been fixed at from \$1.50 to \$3.50 per day. European plan, including admission to the grounds. On the American plan, the rates range from \$3 to \$5 per day. The hotel is 400 by 800 feet, and is three stories high.

There are more than 150 established hotels in St. Louis, and a signed agreement has been made between many of their managers with the Exposition officials that rates shall not be raised during the exposition period. Many new hotels have been built on sites adjacent to the Exposition grounds and the published fixed rates warrant the assertion that no one need pay exorbitant rates for accommodations either at hotels or private houses.

## Age Told By Figure.

The woman who follows an outdoor sport is usually a very graceful woman. She who golfs, who rides the wheel, who wields the tennis racket, or who swings the croquet mallet, is the woman who is graceful and supple. Men are, as a rule, much more graceful than women, because men are out in the open air more than women and are more active.

The woman who takes to the rocking chair at 9 o'clock in the morning and who sits all day, getting out for only a few minutes, is not the woman who will preserve her figure. At 40 this woman will look her age, and at 50 she will look a great deal older.

Don't forget that age is told, not by the lines in the face, but the figure. The middle-aged figure is well known. The hips and abdomen are prominent, and there is fat on the shoulder blades. Then there is the figure of old age. There is a withered figure, thin above the waist line and heavy on the hips. This is the stage when a woman begins to look as though she were 70 long before she has lived out her 60s. Fattiness and hundreds of other women have kept their figures, and are lovely to gaze upon even now, when in the mellow leaf. And the woman of domestic life can also be lovely, even though her years have piled upon her.—Ohio State Journal.

Gus Schuman is said to have failed in his mission to Maui, which was to bring about amalgamation of the Bismarck and the Iao stables.

## Catarrh

## Invites Consumption

It weakens the delicate lung tissues, deranges the digestive organs, and breaks down the general health.

It often causes headache and dizziness, impairs the taste, smell and hearing, and affects the voice.

Being a constitutional disease it requires a constitutional remedy.

**Hood's Sarsaparilla** Radically and permanently cures catarrh of the nose, throat, stomach, bowels, and more delicate organs.

Read the testimonials. No substitute for Hood's acts like Hood's. Be sure to get Hood's.

"I was troubled with catarrh 20 years. Seeing statements of cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla resolved to try it. Four bottles entirely cured me." WILLIAM SHERMAN, 1030 6th St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Hood's Sarsaparilla promises to cure and keeps the promise.

## A CAKE

—OF—

## PURE

Olive Oil

## SOAP

WITH

Wash Rag

ONLY 10 CENTS.

3 for 25 cts.

ONLY A FEW LEFT.

Hollister Drug Co.

FORT STREET.

Yesterday

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and Always!

Quality the Best

No matter in what line you purchase—quality is always the best.

It's an easy thing to own a watch, when you can get such a watch as we give for

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Solid gold throughout. FULL SEVENTEEN JEWELLED ELGIN MOVEMENT.

A perfect watch. Fully guaranteed. Others much cheaper. Some a little more.

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We offer a

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For particulars see

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OFFICES

Second Floor.—All modern conveniences. Rental includes janitor service, electric lights and water rates. \$18.00 per month up.

THE VON HAMM-YOUNG CO., LTD.

## DISTILLATE

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And a Stock In Honolulu

Sufficient For All Demands

We are sole agents for Standard Grades of Distillate and are prepared to meet all competition and protect our customers.

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Fort and Merchant Streets

## Electric Lights

## Increase Comfort

No other kind of illumination furnishes such comfort in the home as the incandescent light.

One knows just where to turn on the light without the provoking search for matches. They are conveniently located so do not require being carried about, and there is absolutely no danger of an explosion or fire.

The cost very slightly exceeds that of kerosene, yet the convenience, reliability and service is better by a hundred fold.

For further information apply at

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## The Best Sun Shade

for your veranda is the BAMBOO SCREEN. 4 to 10 ft. in width at 20c. per ft.

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Rose and Carnation Plants

Also Fresh Flower Seeds For Sale.

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## Crystal Springs Butter

will create an appetite—not take it away. It is as pure, fresh and sweet as the clover blossom.

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